## **REMARKS**

Receipt of the Office Action of May 4, 2007 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 12-23 have been examined with the result that claims 12-14 and 22 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) by Yano et al., claims 15-17 are objected to, but contain allowable subject matter, and claims 18-21 and 23 are allowed.

To place this application in condition for allowance, claims 15-17 have been placed in independent form as new claims 24-26, claim 13 amended to depend from claim 24 and claims 27-30 added which parallel claims 13 and 14, but depended from new claims 25 and 26.

In view of the above, this application should now be in condition for allowance with claims 18-30, 13 and 14.

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Respectfully submitted, BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

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